

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1494**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Baca**

February 22, 2005

---

An act to amend Section 25503.5 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to alcoholic beverage control.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1494, as introduced, Baca. Alcoholic beverages: instructions: professional development.

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Act authorizes distilled spirits manufacturers and winegrowers to conduct tastings of distilled spirits or wine at specified events, and permits specified entities to instruct licensees and their employees in the subject of wine, beer, or distilled spirits, and to furnish wine, beer, or distilled spirits in connection with that instruction.

This bill would additionally allow distilled spirits manufacturers and their agents to furnish distilled spirits for use in connection with professional development courses.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 25503.5 of the Business and Professions
- 2 Code is amended to read:
- 3 25503.5. (a) A winegrower, beer manufacturer, or a beer and
- 4 wine wholesaler may, without charge, instruct licensees and their
- 5 employees, or conduct courses of instruction for licensees and
- 6 their employees, on the subject of wine or beer, including, but

1 not limited to, the history, nature, values, and characteristics of  
2 wine or beer, the use of wine lists, and the methods of presenting  
3 and serving wine or beer. The winegrower, beer manufacturer, or  
4 beer and wine wholesaler may furnish wine or beer and the  
5 equipment, materials and utensils that may be required for use in  
6 connection with the instruction or courses of instruction.

7 (b) A distilled spirits manufacturer, distilled spirits  
8 manufacturer's agent, distilled spirits general rectifier, or distilled  
9 spirits general importer may, without charge, instruct licensees  
10 and their employees, or conduct courses of instruction for  
11 licensees and their employees, on the subject of distilled spirits,  
12 including, but not limited to, the history, nature, values, and  
13 characteristics of distilled spirits, and the methods of presenting  
14 and serving distilled spirits. The distilled spirits manufacturer or  
15 distilled spirits manufacturer's agent may furnish distilled spirits  
16 and the equipment, materials, and utensils that may be required  
17 for use in connection with the instruction or courses of  
18 instruction, *or professional development*.

19 (c) A winegrower or distilled spirits manufacturer, or its  
20 authorized agent may instruct consumers at an on-sale retail  
21 licensed premises authorized to sell its product with the  
22 permission of the retail on-sale licensee. The instruction may  
23 include, without limitation, the history, nature, values, and  
24 characteristics of the product and the methods of presenting and  
25 serving the product. The instruction of consumers may include  
26 the furnishing of not more than three tastings to any individual in  
27 one day. A single tasting of distilled spirits may not exceed  
28 one-fourth of one ounce and a single tasting of wine may not  
29 exceed one ounce. The winegrower or distilled spirits  
30 manufacturer, or its authorized agent shall remove any unfinished  
31 alcoholic beverages that he or she provided following the  
32 instruction. Nothing in this subdivision shall limit the giving  
33 away of samples pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 23386.

34 (d) The instruction or courses of instruction, authorized in  
35 subdivision (a) or (b), may be given at the premises of the  
36 winegrower, beer manufacturer, beer and wine wholesaler,  
37 distilled spirits manufacturer, distilled spirits manufacturer's  
38 agent, distilled spirits general rectifier, distilled spirits general  
39 importer or of a licensee, including an on-sale retail licensee, or  
40 elsewhere.

O